

**ABSTRACT**

The object of the present invention is to provide an image encoding device for designating a selected region constituting a region to which a greater quantity of information is allocated in an image. Thus, the present invention provides an image encoding device including a transformation component for converting an image into transformation coefficients by subjecting the image to a frequency decomposition. The image encoding device further includes a dividing component for dividing the transformation coefficients produced by the transformation component into a "selected region on the image" and a "non-selected region other than the selected region," and an encoding component for encoding the transformation coefficients by allocating a greater quantity of information to the selected region than to the non-selected region. The image encoding device yet further includes a region adjustment component for controlling a bit allocation rate of the non-selected region by adjusting the area of the selected region.

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